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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK #2//

TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY CONTAINS CODEWORD

WH51326

TOHAK #2

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

JULY 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

DIA, NSA reviews
completed

ANGOLA AIRLIFT: EMBASSY KINSHASA REPORTS THAT A CONTRACT HAS BEEN CONCLUDED BETWEEN AIR ZAIRE AND A PORTUGUESE TOURING AGENCY TO TRANSPORT SOME 10,000 PORTUGUESE FROM NOVA LISBOA, ANGOLA, TO MADRID BEGINNING MONDAY, JULY 28.

FLEXIBLE FOREIGN POLICY FORESEEN IN CAMBODIA: DIA REPORTS THAT KC LEADERSHIP IN PHNOM PENH MAY BE PREPARING TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS. FOREIGN MINISTER SARIN CHAK'S RECENT MONTH-LONG VISIT TO AFRICA, EUROPE, AND THE MIDDLE EAST MAY HAVE BEEN THE FIRST STEP IN SOLIDIFYING OLD TIES AND PAVING THE WAY FOR MORE FORMAL DIALOG WITH FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS. EFFORTS MAY ALSO BE MADE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, WHOSE FOREIGN MINISTRY RECENTLY INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. ACCORDING TO A JULY 24 PRESS REPORT, SEMI-OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS CENTERING ON THE RESUMPTION OF TRADE AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ALSO HELD WITH THAILAND. IF CONFIRMED, THIS WOULD REPRESENT THE FIRST SUCH INITIATIVE SINCE THE KC CAME TO POWER THREE MONTHS AGO.

State Dept. review
completed

IN A POSSIBLY RELATED DEVELOPMENT, MOVES TO RETURN THE CAPITAL TO NORMAL APPEAR UNDER WAY. SEVERAL FACTORIES AND THE CITY'S WATER AND ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS HAVE REPORTEDLY RESUMED OPERATION. MOST KEY HIGHWAYS LEADING INTO THE CITY HAVE BEEN REOPENED, AND REPAIR WORK ON THE RAIL LINE TO POIPET AND KOMPONG SOM IS REPORTEDLY NEARING COMPLETION. MEDICAL PERSONNEL FROM THE PROVINCES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE CITY'S

MORI/CDF C02440955

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

SECPL (3),SDD

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HOSPITALS. MOREOVER, SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TRICKLING TO THE CAPITAL, AND NEARLY A QUARTER MILLION OTHERS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN RESETTLED IN ITS OUTER ENVIRONS. IN ADDITION, AS THE SECURITY SITUATION SEEMINGLY IMPROVES, THE KC MAY MODIFY THEIR EARLIER POLICY OF PROHIBITTING THE REENTRY OF FOREIGNERS INTO THE COUNTRY. AS YET, ONLY THE CHINESE ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CAPITAL.

MONTAGNARD MILITARY CAMPAIGN IN VIETNAM: MONTAGNARD TRIBESMEN IN THE VIETNAMESE HIGHLANDS HAVE INITIATED A MILITARY CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE COMMUNIST REGIME, POSSIBLY TO SECURE ETHNIC SEPARATION AND POLITICAL AUTONOMY, ACCORDING TO NSA. NVA COMMUNICATIONS DISCLOSE THAT, SINCE MID-MAY, THE MONTAGNARDS HAVE CONDUCTED COMPANY AND BATTALION-SIZED ATTACKS AGAINST COMMUNIST TROOPS AND LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE PROVINCES OF KONTUM, DARLAC, AND LAN DONG. MOST RECENTLY, THE NVA HAVE REPORTED THAT THE TRIBESMEN INTEND TO FORM TWO DIVISIONS, ONE IN LAN DONG PROVINCE AND ONE IN TUYEN DUC, AND ARE ACTIVE IN THE COASTAL PROVINCE OF KHANH HOA AS WELL. THE REGIME IS ALSO FACED WITH A POTENTIAL ARMED STRUGGLE FOR AUTONOMY BY THE CAO DAI RELIGIOUS SECT IN THE AREA NORTHWEST OF SAIGON.

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CON SON ISLAND ACTIVITY: ACCORDING TO AN INTERCEPTED MESSAGE, THE VIETNAMESE ARE APPARENTLY MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR MILITARY ACTION AGAINST UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS WHO HAVE LANDED ON ONE OF THE ISLANDS IN THE CON SON ISLAND GROUP, LOCATED OFF THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST OF SOUTH VIETNAM. A NORTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY UNIT REPORTED ON JULY 24 THAT "200 VESSELS" WERE NEAR THE ISLANDS ON JULY 18 AND 19 AND THAT TWO OF THEM HAD LANDED. A MEETING OF MILITARY COMMANDERS TO DISCUSS GROUND AND AIR OPERATIONS AGAINST THE INTRUDERS WAS TO BE HELD IN SAIGON ON THURSDAY, BUT NO RESULTS HAVE BEEN NOTED. THE TRESPASSERS MIGHT WELL BE STATELESS SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHO HAVE DECIDED TO ATTEMPT TO SETTLE IN THE CON SON ISLAND GROUP.

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